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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/761,815	01/20/2004	Charles W. Marsh	017058-0307819	9990
909 7590 10/17/2007 PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW PITTMAN, LLP P.O. BOX 10500 MCLEAN, VA 22102			EXAMINER PATEL, DHIRUBHAI R	
			ART UNIT 2831	PAPER NUMBER
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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/761,815

Applicant(s)

MARSH ET AL.

Examiner

DHIRU R. PATEL

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 7/23/07 LRP
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>SKETCH A</u>                           |

### **Specification**

1. The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o). Correction of the following is required:

In claim 1 line 4, " around the wiring harness to, simultaneously " is not adequately supported by the **original** specification.

In claim 17 line 4, " around the wiring harness to, simultaneously " is not adequately supported by the **original** specification.

In claim 20 line 4, " around the wiring harness to, simultaneously " is not adequately supported by the **original** specification.

In claim 21 line 4, " around the wiring harness to, simultaneously " is not adequately supported by the **original** specification.

### ***Claim Objections***

2. Claims 1-25 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In claim 1 line 4, " around the wiring harness to, simultaneously " is not adequately supported by the **original** specification.

In claim 17 line 4, " around the wiring harness to, simultaneously " is not adequately supported by the **original** specification.

In claim 20 line 4, " around the wiring harness to, simultaneously " is not adequately supported by the **original** specification.

In claim 21 line 4, " around the wiring harness to, simultaneously " is not adequately supported by the **original** specification.

**The applicant is required to cancel the claim or provide a reasonable explanation of why they feel the specification supports the subject matter as disclosed in claims 1, 17 and 21. Applicant must refer to the specification by page and lines number in the original specification and to the drawing, if any, by reference characters to provide support for claims 1, 17 and 20-21.**

Appropriate correction is required.

#### **Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103**

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not

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commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

3. Claims 1 -2, 6-7, 11- 22 and 24 - 25 as best understood, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Hull et al Pub. No. US 2005/0072589 in view of Lockwood et al (5,013,872).

Hull et al disclose:

Regarding claim 1, an electronic assembly, which comprises:

Connectors 20-23 connected to conduit (conduit for enclosing electric wires or cables, see fig 1 and page 2, entire column 3); and a molded body A and provide access to the connectors (see figs 1, 13-15 and page 2 , entire column 3), but fails to disclose a wiring harness and said body formed around the wiring harness to, simultaneously, completely encapsulate the wiring harness. Lockwood et al teach the use of a body 10 formed around a wiring harness 16 to, simultaneously, completely encapsulate the wiring harness (see figs 1-2 and entire columns 2-4) in order to the conductors wires 20 can be wired as necessary (see column 4 lines 30-35), Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the assembly of Hull et al with said molded body being formed around a wiring harness to, simultaneously, completely encapsulate the wiring harness as taught by Lockwood et al in order to wire the conductors of the harness to various electrical components being located in said body, such as relay, timer, or pushbutton.

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Regarding claim 2, the modified assembly Hull et al disclose all the features of the claimed invention as shown above, including the molded body comprises a plastic material, see page 2, entire column 3 of Hull et al.

Regarding claim 6, the modified assembly Hull et al discloses all the features of the claimed invention as shown above, including a mounting fixture connected to the molded body (see Attachment A).

Regarding claim 7, the modified assembly Hull et al disclose all the features of the claimed invention as shown above, including the mounting fixture includes a ground connection (see Attachment A).

Regarding claim 11, the modified assembly Hull et al disclose all the features of the claimed invention as shown above, including shielding 22 for said wiring harness encapsulated within the molded body (see fig s 1-2 of Lockwood et al).

Regarding claim 12, the modified assembly Hull et al disclose all the features of the claimed invention as shown above, including wherein said shielding includes a conductive material surrounding the wiring harness (see entire column 2 of Lockwood et al).

Regarding claim 13, the modified assembly Hull et al disclose all the features of the claimed invention as shown above, including said connectors are molded into the molded body (see page 2, entire column 3 of Hull et al).

Regarding claim 14-15, the modified assembly Hull et al disclose all the features of the claimed invention as shown above, and it is noted that the modified assembly of Haull et al meet the structural limitations.

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Regarding claim 16, the modified assembly Hull et al disclose all the features of the claimed invention as shown above, including the mounting fixture are molded into the molded body (see entire column 3 of Hull et al).

Hull et al disclose:

Regarding claim 17, an electronic assembly, which comprises:

a plurality of connectors 20-23 and connected to conduit (conduit for enclosing electric wires or cables, see fig 1 and entire column 3); and a molded body A , and to cover a portion of each of said plurality of connectors so as to provide access to each of the connectors (see figs 1, 13-15 and page 2, entire column 3 of Hull et al), but fails to disclose a wiring harness and said body formed around the wiring harness to,

simultaneously, completely encapsulate the wiring harness. Lockwood et al teach the use of a body 10 formed around a wiring harness 16 to, simultaneously, completely encapsulate the wiring harness (see fig 1 and entire columns 2-4) in order to the conductors wires 20 can be wired as necessary (see column 4 lines 30-35), Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the assembly of Hull et al with said molded body being formed around a wiring harness to, simultaneously, completely encapsulate the wiring harness as taught by Lockwood et al in order to wire the conductors of the harness to various electrical components located in said body, such as relay, timer, or pushbutton.

With respect to said molded body has sufficient strength and hardness to act as a frame that is configured to firmly hold said plurality of connectors and said wiring harness as

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one piece (see entire column 3 of Hull et al). It is noted that the modified assembly of Hull et al meet the structural limitations.

Regarding claim 18, the modified assembly Hull et al disclose all the features of the claimed invention as shown above, including wherein said molded body includes a base portion that extends between said plurality of connectors (see figs 1, 13-15 of Hull et al).

Regarding claim 19, the modified assembly Hull et al discloses all the features of the claimed invention as shown above, including a plurality of mounting fixture connected to the molded body (see sketch A).

Hull et al disclose:

Regarding claim 20, an electronic assembly, which comprises:

a plurality of connectors 20-23 and connected to conduit ( conduit for enclosing electric wires or cables, see figs 1, 13-15, page 2, and entire column 3); and a molded body A and to cover a portion of each of said plurality of connectors so as to provide access to each of the connectors (see figs 1, 13-15 and page 2, entire column 3), but fails to disclose a wiring harness and said body formed around the wiring harness to, simultaneously, completely encapsulate the wiring harness. Lockwood et al teach the use of a body 10 formed around a wiring harness 16 to, simultaneously, completely encapsulate the wiring harness (see fig 1 and entire columns 2-4) in order to the conductors wires 20 can be wired as necessary (see column 4 lines 30-35), Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the assembly of Hull et al with said molded body being formed around a wiring harness to, simultaneously, completely encapsulate the wiring



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harness as taught by Lockwood et al in order to wire the conductors of the harness to various electrical components located in said body, such as relay, timer, or pushbutton, and said molded body including a base portion that extends between said plurality of connectors (see figs 1-2 of Hull et al).

Hull et al disclose:

Regarding claim 21, an electronic assembly, which comprises:

a plurality of connectors 20-23 and connected to conduit ( conduit for enclosing electric wires or cables, see figs 1, 13-15, page 2, and entire column 3); and a molded body A and to cover a portion of each of said plurality of connectors so as to provide access to each of the connectors (see figs 1, 13-15, page 2, and entire column 3) and at least two of the plurality of connectors are connected to each other (see figs 1, 13-15 of Hull et al), but fails to disclose a wiring harness and said body formed around the wiring harness to, simultaneously, completely encapsulate the wiring harness. Lockwood et al teach the use of a body 10 formed around a wiring harness 16 to, simultaneously, completely encapsulate the wiring harness (see fig 1 and entire columns 2-4) in order to the conductors wires 20 can be wired as necessary (see column 4 lines 30-35),

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the assembly of Hull et al with said molded body being formed around a wiring harness to, simultaneously, completely encapsulate the wiring harness as taught by Lockwood et al in order to wire the conductors of the harness to various electrical components located in said body, such as relay, timer, or pushbutton.

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Regarding claim 22, the modified assembly Hull et al disclose all the features of the claimed invention as shown above, including the molded body comprises a plastic material (see page 2 and entire column 3 of Hull et al).

Regarding claim 24, the modified assembly Hull et al discloses all the features of the claimed invention as shown above, including a mounting fixture molded into the molded body (see page 2 and entire column 3 of Hull et al).

Regarding claim 25, the modified assembly Hull et al disclose all the features of the claimed invention as shown above, wherein the wiring harness includes wiring bundles that interconnect the connectors (see figs 1 and 2 of Lockwood et al ).

4. Claims 3-5, and 23 as best understood, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Hull et al Pub. No. US 2005/0072589 in view of Becker (5,107,989).

Hull et al disclose:

Regarding claims 3 and 23, the modified assembly Hull et al disclose all the features of the claimed invention as shown above, but fails to disclose a conductive coating on the outer surface of the molded body for claims 3 and 23. Becker teaches the use of a body (a conventional box, see column 3 line 29) with the coating on the exterior surface of the illustrative box is electrically conductive (see column 3 lines 55-57) in order to provide a conductive path to ground for dissipating any electrostatic charges on the box whenever it comes into contact with a ground surface (see column 3 lines 55-62), Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

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was made to provide the modified assembly of Hull et al with a conductive coating on the outer surface of the molded body as taught by Becker in order to provide a conductive path to ground for dissipating any electrostatic charges on the box whenever it comes into contact with a ground surface. With respect to claim 4, the conductive coating 30 (see column 4 lines 1-15 of Becker).

Regarding claim 5, It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the modified assembly of Hull et al with the conductive coating comprises a metallic layer applied to the outer surface of the molded body, since it has been held to be within the general skill of a worker in the art to select a known material on the basis of its suitability for the intended use as a matter of obvious design choice. In re Leshin, 125 USPQ 416.

5. Claims 8-10 as best understood, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Hull et al Pub. No. US 2005/0072589 in view of Morrow (5,

LSR. 541,457).

Hull et al disclose:

Regarding claims 8-10, the modified assembly Hull et al discloses all the features of the claimed invention as shown above, but fails to disclose a socket affixed to the molded body, the socket being connected to the wiring harness (for claim 8) and the socket is adapted to receive a relay (for claim 9) and the relay is connected to said socket (for claim 10). Morrow teaches the use of a box 10 with relay 17 is plugged into socket 18 (see fig 5 and column 8 lines 5-40) in order to prevent damage internally during soldering operation ( see column 8 lines 38-42). Therefore, It would have been obvious

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to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the modified assembly of Hull et al with a socket affixed to the molded body and the socket is adapted to receive a relay and the relay being connected to said socket as taught by Morrow in order to prevent damage internally during soldering operation. With respect to the socket being connected to the wiring harness, it is noted that the modified assembly of Hull et al meet the structural limitations.

### ***Conclusion***

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

***Response to Arguments***

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-25 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

**Contact Information**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DHIRU R. PATEL whose telephone number is 571-272-1983. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH, 6:30 TO 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dean Reichard can be reached on 571-272-1984. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

  
DHIRU R PATEL 10/13/07  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2831

Attachment A

